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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Mon 9/30/2019 7:55:50 PM
Subject: Please Help My Relative and 60,000 Homeless by Considering These Solutions

Dear Mayor Eric Garcetti, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, and Councilmember Monica Rodriguez,

As a former volunteer advocate for the homeless from 2012 to 2017, myself along with a group of community volunteers, helped house 50 homeless persons as well as helped others obtain transitional shelter, or vouchers for housing. We were specially trained to use the CES assessment to help determine a person's acuity for prioritized "Housing First Program". We assisted the homeless in obtaining ID and in establishing connection to various services preparing them for housing.

Now 3 years later I have seen the explosion of more homeless in our community and throughout the San Fernando Valley.

But in April of 2018, I saw first hand the obstacles experienced by a homeless person through the eyes of our relative who suffered from mental illness and drug misuse and ended up on the streets after a 5150. Unable to hold down a job and struggling with maintaining medication for his mental illness and fighting drug misuse rendered him unable to help himself to work towards sobriety, job and housing. To complicate matters he has numerous cases pending in the courts currently asking him to attend 2 outpatient drug programs and complete a probation program without anyway of paying the associated court fees.

Building expensive apartments will NOT HELP him, but will also NOT HELP the thousands like him on the streets.

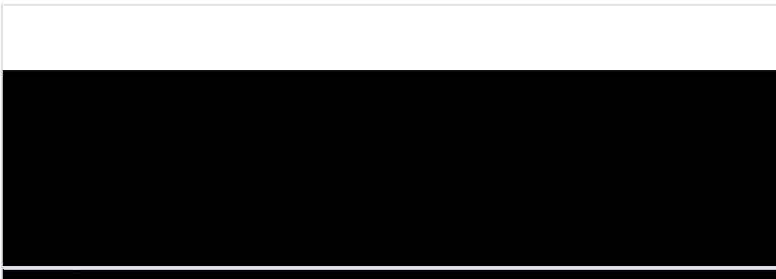
What is the Solution?

What needs to happen are a number of approaches, some of which are being implemented and a few ideas which need to be seriously considered to help house the 60,000 Los Angeles unhoused individuals.

1st - DROP the idea of building expensive apartments upwards of \$500,000 a unit and work within the budget given by the tax payers passing the HH and HHH legislation.

INSTEAD put up small premanufactured homes or mobile units on large areas of land in the outlying desert areas and communities. Quonset Huts with partitions for individual rooms and multi level manufactured homes within industrial areas can also be quickly, easily and inexpensively built if some of the unnecessary costs due to over regulation are dropped.

2nd- Utilize underused jail facilities to house drug users to get clean and receive help from visiting drug counselors. A person with a job and family can use the outpatient route but for broke homeless persons without a job, an inpatient approach to getting sober is necessary before being able to move forward towards housing and a job. Judges could also assign Inpatient Treatment as opposed to just Outpatient Programs. Access the Bakersfield Proposal for homeless persons with misdemeanors as mentioned this past week in an LA Times article [\[Throwing people in jail on drug charges? That's Bakersfield's idea to fight homelessness\]](#) and the Rhode Island Program for more serious offenders as mentioned in a documentary a few weeks back. [\[The Fix: Examining Rhode Island's Opioid Epidemic\]](#)





The Fix: Examining Rhode Island's Opioid Epidemic

Rhode Island has faced many struggles over the years, but few compare to the opioid epidemic. From loss of life ...



Throwing people in jail on drug charges? That's Bakersfield's idea to fi...

Cities across California have been searching for solutions to homelessness, with most adding shelters and housin...

3rd.- Utilize Tiny Homes for living purposes either transitional or permanent housing such as in Oregon. [[Oregon Creates Tiny Home Community For The Homeless | Listen To America](#)] The Portland Oregon community organizations donated the materials and labor to build Tiny Homes for their homeless residents and the city donated the small plot of land to house these units. (Small manufactured homes or mobile homes would work too.)



Oregon Creates Tiny Home Community For The Homeless | Listen To America

Eugene, Oregon has housed some of its homeless population in tiny homes to much success, and now low-income resi...

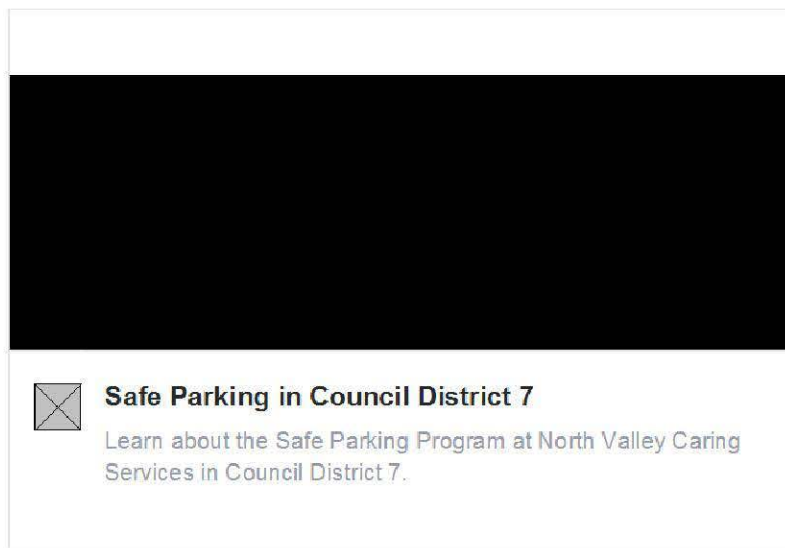
4th - Provide support for establishing more "Shared Housing" programs.

5th - Provide support for more "Rehab or halfway houses.

6th - Provide incentives for landowners with 10 or more units to designate one unit for a section 8 voucher.

7th - Continue restricted parking for vehicle dwellers so they know where legal parking is allowed.

8th - Utilize city wide safe parking. Access CD7 successful Safe Parking program. We need many more of these.
[\[Safe Parking in Council District 7\]](#)



9th - In addition to LA-HOP, provide walk in services at all council district offices where homeless can walk in and request outreach for services that can get passed along to the appropriate person or agency as well as citizens can walk in and request help with an encampment or homeless person needing assistance.

The web outreach does not benefit homeless persons who have no access to the web or persons not familiar with using the web and need assistance in requesting help with a particular encampment or individual. (The Sunland-Tujunga office in 2012 until recent did have caseworkers on hand to do the CES assessment right at the office saving time trying to locate the homeless person at a later time.)

10th - Update county wide 211 cards listing hands on help to be given to all homeless everywhere.

Citizens should be able to go into their Council office and pick up some 211 cards to hand out to local homeless residents. The homeless should also be able to walk in and be given pertinent information in addition to the 211 card.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,